

# Rooted in Black Atlanta

Whether consoling local churchgoers or leading national civil rights campaigns, Martin Luther King, Jr., did so with a compassionate determination that stemmed from his upbringing in Black Atlanta.

As a youngster, he lived segregation's "sting"—its curbs on freedom and opportunity. His parents and grandparents, however, provided a sense of personal security. They instilled in him the value of education, a love for philosophy and religion, and a passion to help others.

Family, church, and Atlanta's Black community nourished King and his crusade until he was killed by an assassin's bullet in 1968.

*My strong determination for justice comes from...  
my father, and...the gentle aspect comes from a mother  
who is very gentle and sweet.*

Martin Luther King, Jr.

When King was 12, the family moved from his Auburn Avenue birthplace to this yellow-brick house that stood near the corner you are facing. King is shown (below right) with his parents, brother A.D., sister Christine; and with his bride, Coretta Scott (below).

